

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 03450 010126Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----028191 010630Z /11

R 282141Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7277

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3450

EXDIS

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PPDC, NU
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE: CONFIDENTIALITY COMPROMISED

REF: STATE 183451

1. POLOFF WAS INFORMED ON JULY 28 BY ROBERTO PELLEYA, LEGISLATIVE AIDE TO SEN. RICHARD STONE, THAT HE HAD BEEN SHOWN PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT SOMOZA (REFTEL).

2. PELLEYA SAID SOMOZA HAD TOLD HIM THE LETTER WAS PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL. PELLEYA ALSO SAID HE HAD READ THE LETTER AND ALTHOUGH HE DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER SOMOZA THOUGHT THE LETTER WAS SUPPORTIVE, HE FOUND IT WELL-BALANCED AND CONSTRUCTIVE.

3. POLOFF ADVISED PELLEYA THAT THE LETTER PROBABLY WOULD BE HOTLY DEBATED LOCALLY IF IT WERE MADE PUBLIC AND ASKED HIM TO MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE MESSAGE. POLOFF ALSO INDICATED THE LETTER HAD BEEN ACCCOMPANIED BY A VERBAL EXPRESSION OF CONCERN BY AMB WHEN THE LETTER WAS DELIVERED TO NOTE US VIEW ON SUBSEQUENT DISQUIETING VIOLENT EVENTS. PELLEYA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD, WOULD MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE CONFIDENTIALITY, AND WAS PLEASED THERE HAD ALSO BEEN AN EXPRESSION OF CONCERN.

4. PELLEYA HAS PROMISED TO CONTACT EMB AGAIN FOR FULL DEBRIEFING. HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR THAT HE APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT SOMOZA IS TOTALLY UNPOPULAR AND ISOLATED, AND THAT THE NATCONAL GUARB HAS REVENTLY COMMITTED

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS (JINOTEPE AND SAN MARCOS).
HE FINDS PRIVATE SECTOR AND TRADITIONAL POLITICAL
LEADERS ARE PREPACING TO LAUNCH INITIATIVES TO CHALLENGE
SOMOZA'S CONTROL AND WONDERS WHY THE USG IS NOT BACKING THEIR
EFFORTSM POLOFF ANSWERED THAT THE EMB HAS BAEN WORKING
HARD WITH THE SAME PEOPLE HE HAD TALKED TO TO GET THEM
TO TAKE POLITICAL INITIATIVES RATHER THAN MAINTAINING
A STALEMATED CLIMATE WHICH ONLY LED TO FURTHER VIOLENCE.
THE DISCUSSION OF NEW POLITICAL INITIATIVES MAY BE
ATTRIBUTED AT LEAST IN PART TO EMB EFXORTS. PELLEYA
UPPEARED TO ACCEPT THIS ANSWER.

5. EMB RECOMMENDS DEPT CONTACT PELPEYA FOLLOWING HIS
RETURM NEXT WEEK INASMUCH AS HE HAS HAD SEVEGAL VALUABLE
CONTACTS SUCHNAS THE SOMOZA MEETING WHICH HE CAN DISCUSS.
PELLEYA HAS HAD A CRASH COURSE IN THE NICARAGUAN SCENE
AT A TIME OF EXTREME POLAGIZATION. HE MAY NOT HAVE
HAD THE BAKGROUND OM NICARAGUAN POLITICS TO EVALUATE
THE INFORMATION HE HAS PICKED UP, BUT HE DOES HAVE
INTERESTING INFORMATION AND VIEWS.

TUCKER

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NNN

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